

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 OMB-01 AID-05 /077 W

----- 069729

P R 121745Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4199

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJ: FIRST GOVT CRACK DOWN ON RIGHTIST EXTREMISTS

REF : MADRID 0074 (NOTAL)

1. BARCELONA POLICE ARRESTED JAN 8 FOURTEEN PEOPLE ON CHARGE OF
VARIOUS ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST BOOK STORES, COMMUNITY

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ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS, AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES IN PAST MONTH.

POLICE IDENTIFY THESE INDIVIDUALS AS MEMBERS OF A RIGHT-WING BULLY-BOY OUTFIT THAT HAS CALLED ITSELF THE GAS (GRUPO DE ACCION SINDICALISTA).

2. THE MEDIA REPORT EHE SPOKESMAN FOR SOME 120 SUPPORTERS OF THE "GUARDIA DE FRANCO" WHICH ASSEMBLED JAN 8 OUTSIDE THE PALACE OF JUSTICE IN BARCELONA SAID THAT DETAINEES WERE MEMBERS OF "GUARDIA DE FRANCO" AND DISCLAIMED ASSOCIATION WITH THE GAS. THE POLICE, IN DISPERSING THE CROWD, ARRESTED TWO MEN. THE "GUARDIA DE FRANCO" IS A PARAMILITARY OUTFIT ESTABLISHED AFTER THE CIVIL WAR AND LATER PLACED UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT.

3. THE FOLLOWING DAY THE HEADQUARTERS OF "GUARDIA DE FRANCO" TRIED TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM RIGHT-WING VIOLENCE, ISSUING A STATEMENT THAT NONE OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE MEMBERS OF THE "GUARDIA DE FRANCO". THIS IS THE FIRST MAJOR MOVE AGAINST RIGHT-WING VIOLENCE, AND CONFIRMS MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR FRAGA'S WARNING THAT VIOLENT ACTS FROM ANY QUARTER WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

4. TODAY FRAGA'S NEW UNDERSECRETARY OF INTERIOR, ROMAY BECCARIA, CONFIRMED TO EMBOFFS THE GOS WAS HAPPY WITH THE RESULTS OF ITS NEW-STYLE HANDLING OF THE METRO STRIKE AND INDICATED THE BARCELONA ARRESTS WERE EVIDENCE THAT THE POLICE WERE NOW BEHAVING QUITE DIFFERENTLY. HE SAID THAT THE PROBLEM IN PUBLIC ORDER WOULD BE TO KEEP CONTROL OF THE EXTREME LEFT AND THE EXTREME RIGHT. WE SHOULD ADD THAT FRAGA, WITH AN EYE TO HIS FUTURE POLITICAL FORTUNES, HAS INVESTED QUITE A BIT OF EFFORT IN THE POPULOUS AND PROUD CATALAN AREA. THE ARRESTS OF THE RIGHT-WING BULLY BOYS IN BARCELONA WILL NOT HURT THAT EFFORT.
STABLER

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TAGS: PINT, SP, (FRAGA IRIBARNE, MANUEL)
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